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POSTER

Portfolio of

AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

Harvesting crops,
young people playing in a potato field,
a magnificent mountain range,
gathering sheep in a winter storm . . .

These images captured by the photographer and artist on film and canvas
show a few aspects of the industry, spirit, dedication and beauty
of American agriculture.

Each image carries its own story.

There is an instant during a corn harvest when the rumble of the engine
breaks the morning silence as a farmer maneuvers the combine, watching
mechanical fingers skim along just inches above the ground.

When the camera shutter turns heavy snowflakes into blurred white streaks
one can sense the cold and feel the farmer's commitment to see his farm
animals through another bitter winter.

A vast lush rural landscape appears to be faultless when seen from afar
in an airplane. But in order to turn the beautiful picture into an
agricultural success, the farmer on that land, like most of America's
farmers, must be concerned about plant diseases, attacks by insects,
conserving his soil, and the real return on his investment at market time.

Within these images one sees the result of years of planning, seasons
of frustration and dedication to research that go toward making better
products—the food and fiber—by the people that help transform it all
into the wonder of American agriculture.



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**Mountain of Corn
Everly, Iowa**

At the Last-O-Lakes Co-op in Clay County, Oscar Mohr stands atop 350,000 bushels of shelled corn. The mountain of yellow corn crop reached higher than 20 feet and covered an area nearly as large as a football field.

USDA photo by Thomas DeFeo 1975



**Landscape
West Concord, Minnesota**

The soybean and dairy country in southeastern Minnesota acquires a bleak beauty in early winter. Cornfields appear like islands in a sea of snow. The corn crop is ready for the long northern winter.

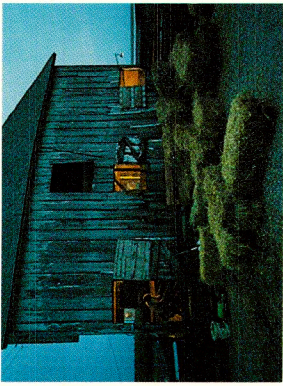
Artist: David Granahan 1975



**Southwest Impression
Colorado Plateau**

The rich colors and rugged terrain of the Colorado Plateau leave a lasting impression on visitors' minds. Important also is the region's rich cultural heritage. The Anasazi, Navajo, and Hopi Indians cultivated maize and other crops in these arid lands. Settlers arrived on our eastern shores.

Artist: Michael David Brown 1985



**Dawn
Mahomet, Illinois**

Chores begin early on most farms. Lyle Bidner is up early on a fall livestock farm, preparing hay for his horses.

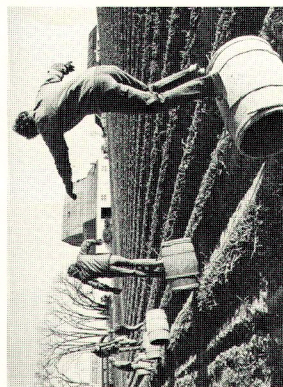
Photo by William Kuykendall 1975



**Sorghum Processing
Carnesville, Georgia**

On the Fletcher Elrod farm near Carnesville, Johnny Watson boils sorghum for processing into syrup. The grain is first cleaned, then crushed and then ground into meal. The meal is then pressed into 4- by 12-foot tanks called "vaporers." A byproduct of the process is a dark, sticky substance sometimes sought by distillers for distilling corn whiskey.

USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975

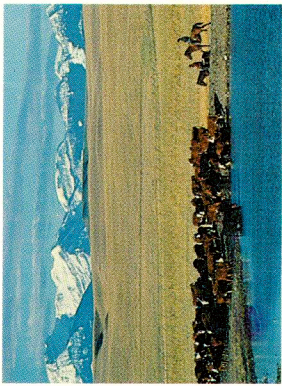


**Harvest Break
Presque Isle, Maine**

Playing before their work day begins, young people in these Maine potato fields roll out the barrels of a new potato crop. The youngsters fill the barrels by hand after a mechanical digger turns up the spuds.

Releasing young people from school is a tradition that is not uncommon today and was once a practice in all of rural America.

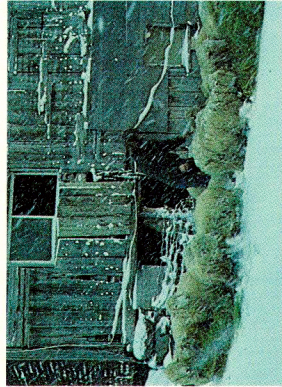
USDA photo by George Robinson 1975



**Roundup
Agusta, Montana**

On the plains beneath Montana's rugged Rocky Mountains, ranchers round up their cattle at a waterhole during roundup time.

USDA photo by Lowell Georgia 1975



**Sheep
Underhill, Vermont**

Part-time farmer Robin Noland raises a small flock of long-wool sheep on his family farm in Underhill, Vermont. Except for lambing and shearing, sheep do not require much attention. The sheep can usually be plained when other chores are not demanding. Noland's animals eat homegrown feed and are shorn during the winter, like a snowstorm, he gives them a little grain.

USDA photo by George Robinson 1977

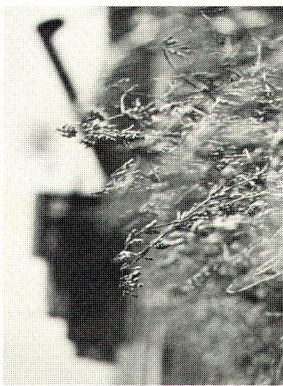


**Cotton Harvesting
Verna, Georgia**

Large mechanical pickers, like this one operating in a fertile Georgia cotton field, harvest the cotton in about an hour. A cotton picker could pick by hand in 3 days. But it takes 100 acres of cotton to make a bale. The pickers make a mechanized picker pay.

The harvest season in Georgia is from September through October.

USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975



**Miracle Crop
Vanna, Georgia**

Soybeans, America's miracle crop, provide vital protein and oil for the livestock and poultry industries. In the thirties, two-thirds of the soybeans raised in the United States were exported to Japan to prove the soil. Later, it was learned that soybeans were far more valuable than wheat. Soybean production in the United States has increased 300 times since the thirties. Soybean production in the United States is valued in the billions of dollars.

USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975



**Homegrown
Southern Maryland**

The early autumn sun highlights tomatoes, okra, a water pitcher, and other homegrown produce from the tobacco farm in Maryland.

USDA photo by Ray Lustig 1975



**Mountain Snow
Sawtooth National Forest, Idaho**

In central Idaho, just north of Ketchum and Sun Valley, the Sawtooth National Forest lies on the boundaries of the Sawtooth National area in the Sawtooth National area. The rugged peaks of these mountains is one of the reasons many visitors flock to Sun Valley for winter recreation.

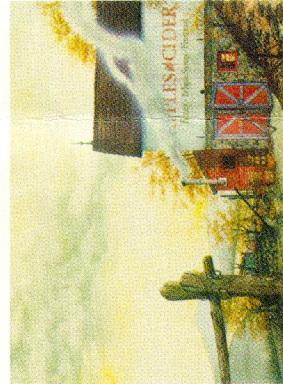
USDA photo by the Forest Service 1978



**Corn Harvesting
Cedar Falls, Iowa**

Morning silence is broken by the rumble of a corn harvester as John Deere combines harvest the 375 acres of corn he planted in April. Working on 6 rows of stalks at a time, the harvester moves the cobs forward, shelling the grain and spewing dusty husks and cobs out the back.

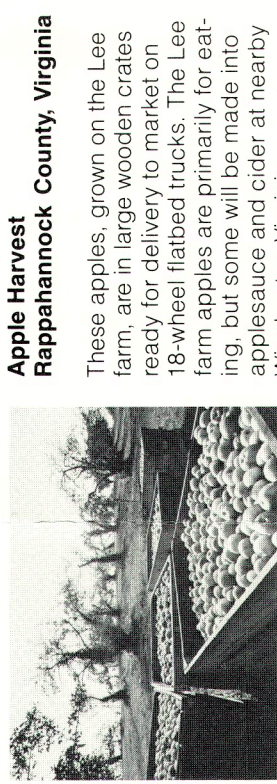
USDA photo by Thomas DeFeo 1978



**Rural Farm
New Hampshire Countryside**

The spirit of a New England countryside is captured at a time when maple syrup and apple cider are prepared for winter.

Artist: Jim Schleyer 1980



**Apple Harvest
Appalachian County, Virginia**

These apples, grown on the Lee family farm, are ready for delivery to market on 18-wheel flatbed trucks. The Lee family has been growing apples for generations. The apples are used for applesauce and cider at nearby Winchester, Virginia.

USDA photo by Byron Schumaker 1975

**United States Department
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Michael David Brown/Southwest Impression

David Granahan/Landscape

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